ORL. He needs not, it is no hidden virtue in Mm.

CON. By my faith, sir, but it is; never any body saw it, but his lackey[8]: 'tis a hooded valour: and, when it appears, it will bate[9].

ORL. Ill will never said well.

CON. I will cap that proverb[1] with—There is flattery in friendship.

ORL. And I will take up that with—Give the devil his due.

CON. Well placed: there stands your friend for the devil: have at the very eye of that proverb, with—A pox of the devil[2].

« — his lackey:] He has beaten nobody but his footboy. JOHNSON.

9 « 'tis a HOODED VALOUR: and, when it appears, it will BATE.] This is said with allusion to falcons which are kept *hooded* when they are not to fly at game, and, as soon as the hood is off, *bait* or flap the wing. The meaning is, the Dauphin's valour has never been let loose upon an enemy, yet, when he makes his first essay, we shall see how he will flutter. JOHNSON.

See vol. xvi. p. 359, n. 3. MALONE.

" This is a poor pun, taken from the terms used in falconry. The whole sense and sarcasm depends upon the equivoque of one word, *viz. bate*, in sound, but not in orthography, answering to the term *bait* in falconry. When the hawk is *unhooded*, her first action is *baiting*, that is, flapping her wings^ as a preparation to her flying at the game. The hawk wants no courage, but invariably *baits* upon taking off the hood. The Constable of France sarcastically says of the Dauphin's courage, * 'Tis a *hooded valour* (i. e. it is hid from every body but his lackey,) and when it *appears* (by preparing to engage the enemy,) it will *bate* (i. e. fall off, evaporate): and not, as Dr. Johnson supposes, bluster or *flutter the wings*, in allusion to the metaphor." *Suppl. to the Gent. Mag.* 1789, p. 1199. STEEVENS.

[1] I will cap that proverb —] Alluding to the practice of capping verses. JOHNSON.

[2] — with—A pox of the devil.] The quartos, 1600 and 1608, read—"with, a jogge of the devil." STEEVENS.

I think the reading of the quartos is right. " A iogge of the devil " means * the devil is at your elbow, jogging you/* In Heywood's Epigrams, 1566, sig. S. in.: